

What is claimed is:

1. An adhesive composition having antimicrobial properties for skin contact applications comprising:

- 5           a. an acrylic polymer; and,
- b. an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsufone dispersed throughout said acrylic polymer.

10           2. The adhesive composition of claim 1 wherein said acrylic polymer comprises a mixture of acrylic resin solutions.

          3. The adhesive composition of claim 2 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

15           4. The adhesive composition of claim 3 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 1% by weight.

20           5. The adhesive composition of claim 4 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 0.5% by weight.

6. The adhesive composition of claim 2 wherein said mixture of acrylic resin solutions includes a non self-curing acrylic resin solution.

5 7. The adhesive composition of claim 6 wherein said mixture of acrylic resin solutions includes a self-curing acrylic resin solution.

10 8. The adhesive composition of claim 7 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 2% by weight.

15 9. The adhesive composition of claim 8 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 1% by weight.

20 10. The adhesive composition of claim 9 wherein a concentration of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone in said acrylic polymer is about 0.1% to about 0.5% by weight.

11. The adhesive composition of claim 8 wherein said non self-curing acrylic resin solution comprises a majority of said mixture

of acrylic resin solutions.

12. The adhesive composition of claim 11 wherein a weight based ratio of said non self-curing acrylic resin solution to said self-curing resin solution for said mixture of acrylic resin solutions is between about 7 and 10.

13. The adhesive composition of claim 12 wherein said non self-curing acrylic resin solution of said mixture of acrylic resin solutions comprises about 40-45 weight percent solids.

14. The adhesive composition of claim 13 wherein said self-curing acrylic resin solution of said mixture of acrylic resin solutions comprises about 30-35 weight percent solids.

15. An antimicrobial adhesive system not requiring an emulsion of an antimicrobial agent thereof and the removal of excess solvent, said system comprising an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsufone dispersed throughout an acrylic polymer.

16. A surgical drape comprising a sheet of polymeric substrate and a coating of an adhesive composition overlying said polymeric

substrate, said adhesive composition comprising an acrylic polymer having an effective amount of diiodomethyl-p-tolylsulfone dispersed therein.